

# NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

## THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION IN GEORGIA.

From the Milledgeville (Georgia) Recorder of the 9th instant we copy the following account of the present condition and probable fate of the project of a Southern Convention:

"NASHVILLE CONVENTION.—The election for Delegates to the Nashville Convention has proved an abortion. From present appearances the whole vote in this State will hardly exceed the vote of one of our strongest counties. Georgia will therefore probably be unrepresented, should the Convention be held, which, by the way, we do not think probable. Even in Mississippi, which originated the measure, public meetings are recommending that it shall not take place, under the apparent probabilities of the settlement by Congress of the question upon which the Convention was to deliberate. From all appearances, we reiterate our impression that no Nashville Convention will be held."

## THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION IN VIRGINIA.

The Richmond Times of Saturday furnishes the subjoined concise account of the movements by the People of Virginia in regard to the proposed Southern Convention:

NASHVILLE CONVENTION.—In Franklin county, at the April court, a public meeting was held, at which John T. Scales, of the Nashville Convention, was present, and read a circular letter to the Nashville Convention, and sustained them with great ardor. Major Jubal A. Early opposed, and offered a counter series. Mr. Woods, the senator, advocated the Nashville Convention. After a long debate, a motion of Major Early's to adjourn sine die was carried by a vote of 10 to 5. In the morning, at the last court, resolutions for the appointment of delegates were postponed indefinitely; after which the minority assembled and appointed the delegates any how.

So far as we are informed, the following are all the counties in this State which have as yet moved in favor of the Nashville Convention, viz:

Amelia, Appomattox, Greensville, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Halifax, Madison, Louisa, Princess Anne, King William, and Campbell.

The following have voted, in court-house meetings, against the appointment of delegates to the Nashville Convention: Albemarle, Augusta, Loudoun, King George, Franklin, and Calverton.

No county west of the Blue Ridge has yet had a meeting for sending delegates to Nashville, except that the Democrats of Jefferson have declared themselves in favor of the measure.

To which we may add that in Augusta county, at a large meeting held, in pursuance of public notice in the newspapers, on the 25th ultimo, being the largest one that had assembled in that county for years past, two sets of Resolutions were before the meeting; the one set reported by a committee appointed for the purpose—the other set moved as a substitute, proposing the appointment of delegates to the Nashville Convention. For four hours the subject was earnestly and ably discussed. The result was, that the following Preamble and Resolutions (being those reported by the committee) were adopted, upon a division of the People assembled, by a vote of more than ten to one:

The People of Augusta believe that the time has arrived when it becomes them publicly and solemnly to declare their affection for that unity of government which constitutes the United States of America one people.

We verily believe it to be the main pillar in the edifice of our national independence, the support of our tranquility at home, our peace abroad, of our safety, of our prosperity, of that very liberty which we so highly prize.

We feel that, at this crisis, it is of infinite moment that we should properly estimate the immense value of our National Union to our collective and individual happiness; that we should cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it, accustoming ourselves to think and to speak of it as a palladium of our political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; discountenancing whatever may suggest a jealousy that it can in any event be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts. Be it therefore resolved:

1. We rejoice in the assurance that the calm, steady, and prevailing voice of real public opinion is beginning to be heard above the noise and strife of political agitators; and we doubt not that fanatics at the North, and factious at the South, are long to learn the important truth that the heart of the Nation is for the Union—for the Union as our Fathers formed it—for the Union as it is.

2. Identified with the interests, deeply imbued with the feelings—aye, even with the prejudices of the South, we do not expect, we cannot hope, that our brethren at the North will think or feel with us in regard to the sectional questions which unfortunately divide us; but we rely with confidence upon the patriotism and the sense of justice of the sober-minded and reflecting men of the North; and we expect their concurrence and co-operation in the settlement of all our differences, upon such terms as friends may offer and brethren accept.

3. We have no disposition to recount the wrongs suffered by the South, nor do we claim for her exemption from all fault. We would rather, forgetting those things which are behind, or remembering them but for instruction and warning, press forward; prepared to concede, anxious to conciliate, resolved upon peace.

4. We know of no evil, we suffer no grievance, which cannot be removed by a fair and true administration of our Government according to the Constitution. We anticipate no wrong for which disunion would be a remedy. For the protection of our rights, we look with confidence to the authorities and tribunals established by the constitution, and sworn to support it. It will be soon enough to seek other safeguards when all of these have been tried in vain.

5. For the settlement of all questions affecting the Union, we look to the men of the Union, assembled in the councils of the Union, under the constitution of the Union. We have no confidence in, we disclaim all reliance upon, any assembly, however called, which is not authorized by the Constitution and authority in the constitution, and is not elected in the preservation of the Union. More especially do we distrust any such assembly when it is avowedly sectional in its organization and purposes, and expressly excludes from its deliberations the citizens of all other portions of the Union, however wise and patriotic they may be. We therefore decline to be represented in the Nashville Convention.

6. "We have taken our stand upon the platform of the general constitution—a platform broad enough and firm enough to uphold every interest of the whole country. There will we ever be found; and no local policy or local feeling, no temporary impulse shall induce us to yield our foothold on the constitution and the Union. We will march under no banner not known to the whole American people, and to their constitution and laws."

7. The gratitude of every friend of the Union is due to Senators Clay, Cass, Wadsworth, and Dickinson, for the noble and patriotic stand which they have taken in support of the Union. They have touched a chord which thrills throughout the land, carrying hope and confidence to the firebrand and the hearth stone. A nation shall call them blessed—blessed are the peace makers.

8. We disapprove of the action of the Virginia Legislature, because we do not consider the subject to be one properly belonging to their jurisdiction, and because, while they profess to defer to the wishes of the people, they have given occasion and opportunity for the assumption by faction of an influence and authority which is due only to the deliberate opinions of a majority of the community.

NASHVILLE CONVENTION IN CAROLINA.—(Va.)—We hear that at a meeting of the people of this county, at last court, the appointment of delegates was postponed indefinitely. Subsequently a small meeting was held, which determined to send delegates. This is not right. These small meetings have no authority to speak for the whole people, after the people have refused to have any thing to do with the matter. If Virginia is to be represented in this way at Nashville, the whole affair will be a mockery.

(Richmond Whig.)

ST. LOUIS ELECTION.—The municipal election in St. Louis, on the 1st instant, resulted in a decided Whig triumph, as well as an equally decided one for the Unionists. The vote for Mayor was as follows:

LEWIS M. KERRY, (Whig).....3,329  
JOHN HOWE, (Unionist).....2,018  
D. A. MCKENNA, (Anti-Bentonite).....644  
GEO. MURPHY, (Independent).....73

## FURTHER RETURNS FROM GEORGIA.

As chroniclers of passing events (says the Southern Banner) we give to our readers such returns of the election of Delegates to the Nashville Convention as we can glean from our exchanges and other sources. We have stated in our last the aggregate vote of this county to be 27 out of 1,000 votes. Now for the other counties:

In Richmond the vote was about 127 out of 1,200. Oglethorpe, no vote. Wilkes, no vote. Madison, no vote. Floyd, the vote was 53 out of about 1,300. Pike, (Griffin precinct) 29 out of about 500. Cass, 100 out of about 1,400. Cobb, 126 out of 2,000. Lumpkin, the vote was about 27 out of 1,500. Baker, do do 26 do 1,800. Newton, do do 21 do 1,400. Jasper, do do 82 do 1,000. Hancock, do do 42 do 800. Warren, do do 131 do 1,000. Troop, do do 14 do 1,500. Muscogee, do do 113 do 1,900. Chatham, do do 428 do 1,600. Baldwin, no polls opened. Morgan, no polls opened. Paulding, no polls opened. Emanuel, no polls opened. DeKalb, no polls opened. McIntosh, 43 votes. Elberton, no votes.

The popular voice has condemned the Convention, such as it is, as premature, unnecessary, mischievous, at the present time. Whenever the real crisis comes, if ever it shall come, a different language will be spoken at the polls.—Banner.

## THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION IN TENNESSEE.

FROM THE NASHVILLE TRUE WIG OF APRIL 6.

ANOTHER FLASH IN THE PAN.—A second abortive attempt was made on Monday last, at a public meeting in Columbia, to rally the good people of Maury county to the appointment of delegates to the Southern Convention to be held in this city in June next.

C. J. DICKINSON, Esq. was called to the chair, and Geo. GANTT, Esq. presided.

Major W. H. POLE presented a series of resolutions disapproving "the proposition to amend the constitution as recommended by Mr. Calhoun in his recent speech in the United States Senate," and most unqualifiedly repudiating any "measure tending, either directly or indirectly, to the dissolution of the union of these States," opposing "from the platform of the Union, at every hazard, the fanatic who would strike the South down from her position of equality in the Confederacy," approving and re-adopting the resolutions "passed by the anti-Wilcox meeting in New York," and concluding with a proposition to "appoint two or more delegates to represent Maury county in the Nashville Convention."

After a protracted discussion, in which Major Pole and James E. Thomas took part for, and Judge Cabal, M. S. Frierson, Esq., Barclay Martin, Esq., and A. M. Robertson, Esq., against the resolutions, no final action was taken upon them, and the meeting adjourned over to the first Monday in May.

These and other indications of popular displeasure in Tennessee encourage us, to hope that the Convention will not be held in Nashville.

## SENTIMENTS OF LOUISIANA.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS BULLETIN.

The public mind appears to be considerably calmed down, and the agitation of the territorial question has measurably subsided. The republic is safe; in fact, it has not been in danger, the representations of alarmists to the contrary notwithstanding; and it will most assuredly outlive the efforts of the sacrilegious few, who are emulous of the infamous notoriety of being the destroyers of the substantial fabric which wisdom, and virtue, and patriotism constructed. The issue of this flaccid will in one respect be signal and satisfactory; it will show how powerless are the efforts of political demagogues to control the public mind when a sinister objective to be accomplished. The people are often humbugged by adroit tricksters, but it is only for a time that they are the victims of imposition; an instinctive sense of right is a dominant principle with the masses, which eventually proves an invincible obstacle to the efforts of corrupt and ambitious men to lead them astray. In this attempt to drive the people to extremities, to make an issue of the design of which was to arouse sectional prejudices, and ultimately to end in a dissolution of the Union, politicians have been most signally discomfited; and as a merited retribution the seal of public condemnation will be stamped upon them.

In connection with this idea, that members of Congress, who speak of the dissolution of the Union, do so without authority, we refer to an article that appeared some weeks ago in the columns of a city contemporary, the Louisiana Statesman, a Democratic paper conducted with great ability by a gentleman of large experience as a politician, and of national and patriotic views. The following sentiments will meet with a hearty response from the bosom of every patriot, be he Whig or Democrat:

"For ourselves, we scout the idea of a dissolution of the Union. The people will rise in masses against it, and if Government pretexts its duty, they will take the law into their own hands, and hang the traitors that attempt it. Aaron Burr stands infamous on the page of history for a suspected conspiracy. The members of the Hartford Convention, for a mere constructive and unfledged treason, were 'damned to everlasting fame.' Great statesmen, personally pure, have since fallen irretrievably for suggesting the 'rightful remedy' and peace secession from the federal compact. And yet members of the present Congress dare proclaim that they will dissolve the Union? Not one of them has a right to speak of the dissolution of the Union. Not one of them can pledge the South or the North, the East or the West, to any such thing. They have no such function. The South abhors the Union. She has proved faithful time and again. The great name of Mr. Calhoun, backed by a State full of chivalry and talent, and by a deep pervading sense of the injury and oppression visited upon us by the Federal Government, had not the weight of a feather with the South when put in the scale against the Union. We are in it, and intend to remain in it, and the men who say otherwise say what they can never accomplish, and what they have no authority for saying."

MR. HILLIARD AND THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION. Mr. HILLIARD, (one of the Representatives in Congress from Alabama,) in a letter to a friend of his, a distinguished gentleman of this place, (says the Tuskegee Republican,) speaks as follows of the Nashville Convention and the slavery question. The letter is dated the 20th ultimo:

"As to the Nashville Convention, my opinion, as things now stand, is, against it. I adhere to the position taken by me last summer—that no Convention ought to be held in advance of some clear, sensible, firm resolutions upon the subject, and empower the Governor, in the event of an aggression, to call a Convention of the People to consider the question in all its bearings: with the word, the remedy."

"I quite agree with you that there was no authority on the part of the Legislature to appoint delegates. Our friends ought not to connect themselves with it."

"We shall settle the question. California will be admitted and the other portions of the Territory organized into Governments without the proviso."

SENATING IN APRIL.—We learn from the Albany Express of Thursday that the snow on the Helderberg is still quite deep, and the sleighing there was never better than it is at present.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF OHIO. The election of Delegates to the Convention to amend the Constitution of the State of Ohio having been made a party question, the Democrats have succeeded in electing a large majority of its members. The Ohio State Journal says that the Convention will contain "eight Free-Soilers, counting five elected by coalitions with the Locofocos."

The Journal of Commerce severely and justly censures the so-called religious press, which brings to bear its batteries against Messrs. CLAY, WEBSTER, and CASS—the Northern men now struggling to settle the slavery question in peace and according to the constitution and its compromises.

## MR. WEBSTER AND THE BOSTONIANS.

A fitting Letter of acknowledgment by Mr. WEBSTER of the mark of confidence lately offered to him, in the form of an Address, by so large a number of the most respectable inhabitants of Boston and its vicinity, is published in the Boston Daily Advertiser of Saturday last. In giving it to the public, the Advertiser remarks that it has on hand, and may publish at a future date, a list of some six hundred additional signatures to the Letter of approval and thanks to Mr. WEBSTER.

The following Correspondence, appended to the Reply of Mr. WEBSTER, it seems proper for us to copy, as giving strong evidence in support of one position of his speech which has met with much objection:

Copy of a Correspondence between Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, of the Senate of the United States, and the Hon. HUGH N. SMITH, Delegate from New Mexico.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 8, 1850.

To the Hon. Hugh N. Smith, Delegate from New Mexico. DEAR SIR:—I beg leave to reply to a copy of your speech, delivered in the Senate on the 7th of March last, and to draw your attention to the remarks made by me on that occasion upon the general character of the country of New Mexico, and its adaptation to slave labor. You have been a resident in the country for several years, and, as I have understood you to say, have traversed it from end to end. You are a native of one of the slave States of this Union, and of course acquainted with the usual cost of slave labor, and the modes of cultivation to which it may be profitably applied. You are, therefore, I am sure, quite competent to express an opinion on the points which I have suggested, such as shall be satisfactory.

I will be obliged to you, also, to state what the fact is, at the present time, respecting the existence of slavery in New Mexico, and whether the existing laws and constitution of the country allow it.

I have the honor to be, my dear sir, your obedient servant, DANIEL WEBSTER.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 9, 1850.

To the Hon. Daniel Webster of the United States Senate.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and to reply to it with as much pleasure as I can. New Mexico is an exceedingly mountainous country, Santa Fe itself being twice as high as the highest point of the Alleghanies, and nearly all the land, capable of cultivation, is of equal height, though some of the valleys have less altitude above the sea. The country is cold. Its general agricultural products are wheat and corn, and such vegetables as grow in the Northern States of this Union. It is entirely unsuited for slave labor. Labor is exceedingly abundant and cheap. It may be hired for three or four dollars per month, in quantity quite sufficient for carrying on all the agriculture of the Territory. There is no cultivation except by irrigation, and there is not a sufficiency of water to irrigate all the land.

As to the existence, at present, of slavery in New Mexico, it is the general understanding that it has been altogether abolished by the laws of Mexico; but we have no established tribunals which have pronounced, as yet, what the law of the land in this respect is. It is universally considered, however, that the territory is altogether a free territory. I know of no persons in the country who are treated as slaves, except such as may be servants to gentlemen visiting or passing through the country. I may add, that the strongest feeling against slavery universally prevails through the whole Territory, and I suppose it quite impossible to convey it there, and maintain it by any means whatever.

I have the honor to be, with regard, your obedient servant, HUGH N. SMITH.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IN MARYLAND.

The Baltimore American reminds us that, in about three weeks—that is to say, on the second Wednesday of next month—the qualified voters of Maryland are to decide by ballot, at their usual places of voting, whether they are "for a Convention" or "against a Convention" to frame a new Constitution and form of Government for the State of Maryland. The matter has been but little discussed since the passage of the act by the late General Assembly submitting the question to the people. The Delegates to the Convention, if the people shall decide in favor of it, will be chosen at a special election in September. The basis of representation in that body will be that of the Senate and House of Delegates combined. The time for the meeting of the Convention is the first Monday of November, at the city of Annapolis. On the first Wednesday of June, 1851, the new Constitution, framed by the Convention, is to be submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

In this State (says the Raleigh Register) we think we may confidently assert that delegates to the Nashville Convention will be appointed from but three of the nine Congressional districts, at the outside; and that none will be authorized to represent the State at large. In the district represented by Mr. VENABLE, the only two counties that have thus far made any expression of their sentiments (Chatham and Granville) have expressed themselves as opposed to the Southern Convention. We think ourselves safe in the statement that most of the leading public men, of either party, in the State, are opposed to the movement.

## CALIFORNIA.

The New Orleans Crescent of the 6th instant says: "California ought to be, or ought not to be, admitted into the Union as a State. The question as to her admission is not necessarily or legitimately connected with the question of slavery, as between the North and the South. In expressing the opinion that California should be admitted at once, just as she presents herself, and without connexion with any of the questions now eliciting so much discussion in Congress and throughout the country, we still have no doubt that we express the sentiments entertained by a very large majority of the citizens of Louisiana."

A Sign in Pennsylvania.—The Legislature of Pennsylvania, by a strong vote, have postponed a set of Wilcox proviso resolutions to a day beyond the expiration of the session.

A Sign in Connecticut.—The party whose State Convention for the nomination of candidates for State officers laid on the table a set of Wilcox proviso resolutions, and then by a vote of 151 to 37 laid on the table a resolution approving of the proviso resolutions passed by the last Legislature, have carried the election; while the party whose Convention adopted proviso resolutions is defeated.

A Sign in Rhode Island.—The Free-Soil candidate for Governor at the recent election received less than 200 votes in the whole State.

(Journal of Commerce.)

The Richmond Whig, commenting upon the evident design of some of the loud-mouthed blawlers about "Southern rights," &c. to make political capital out of the present state of things, and to distract and weaken the people of the South, so that their partisan schemes may prevail, remarks that these people must excuse the Whigs, who have some personal interest in the institution of slavery, besides some regard for their party, if they do not co-operate actively with them in their game of agitation and discord. It is very plain that many do not desire the union of the South half so much as they do the ascendancy of the Locofoco party. Certainly, Whigs do not expect to be called upon as Whigs to assail General Taylor's Administration, and the Whig party, need to bolster up Locofocoism, under the pretext of protecting Southern rights. And they will not do it. They will know how to maintain and vindicate the rights of the South by their action, and, at the same time, support the patriotic and noble old President now at the head of the nation.—Alex. (Va.) Gazette.

It will be recollected that among the persons killed by the explosion of the ill-fated steamer Troy, near Buffalo, was Dr. WRIGHT, of the firm of Avery & Wright, of Golden, near Syracuse, New York, where they conducted a large grain and provision business. On hearing of the disaster by which his partner lost his life, Mr. AVERY started for Sandusky for the purpose of looking after the interest of the firm, and the first intelligence his family had of him afterwards was the receipt of a telegraphic dispatch announcing his sudden death at Sandusky.

## EMIGRATION TO CALIFORNIA.

We perceive by the Western papers that thousands of men, women, and children are making preparations to leave by the first of June, by the overland route to California. Almost every village or hamlet will send forth its hundreds.

The Detroit Advertiser says that not less than 6,000 men have already made arrangements to leave the State of Michigan for California, and anticipates much pecuniary inconvenience therefrom to those who remain.

All the steamers from New York go filled to their utmost capacity with passengers.

The Boston "Shipping List" states that the number of vessels which have sailed from the United States for California from the 1st of January, 1849, to the 9th of the present month, is as follows: steamers 20, ships 337, barques 303, brig 242, schooners 182, and one sloop—making a total of 1,086 vessels.

The election of two Trustees of the Wabash and Erie Canal, by the subscribers and holders of Indiana stocks, took place on Wednesday at the Banking House of James G. King & Sons, in the city of New York. CHARLES BUTLER was re-elected non-resident trustee, to reside in New York, and THOMAS DOWLING, resident trustee, to reside in Indiana, and to hold their offices respectively for three years from the 10th of May, 1850. THOMAS DOWLING was also elected at the same time to fill COL. BLAKE'S unexpired term till May 10, 1850.

HOMESTEAD LAW IN NEW YORK.—The New York Legislature has enacted a Homestead Law. This, to borrow the language of the Albany Journal, is truly an enlightened and philanthropic measure, whose influences will be wholesome and salutary. It will stimulate mechanics and laboring men to lay aside enough from their earnings to purchase a homestead, for he may do so with the assurance that, whatever of adversity or misfortune befall him, his family will be forever secure of a home.

A SIGN IN OLD MASSACHUSETTS.—A year ago a set of Wilcox proviso resolutions passed the Massachusetts Legislature with only one dissenting voice. In the Senate on Tuesday last, Mr. BUCKINGHAM presented a memorial from 277 persons, asking the Legislature to instruct Mr. WEBSTER to vote for the insertion of the Wilcox proviso in the new Territorial bills, and against the bill of Mr. MASON, concerning fugitive slaves. Mr. HILLARD opposed the reference of this paper to any committee, and, on motion of Mr. HAZEN, it was laid on the table by a vote of 15 to 11.

The Legislature of New York adjourned finally on Wednesday last. The session was limited by law to one hundred days, and that period was insufficient for the business to be transacted.

A writer in Blackwood's Magazine says:

"The parties ruling in the United States are at this moment making sacrifices of the vastest magnitude to each other—sacrifices of great principles as well as of great interests. And why? Because, did they not do so, the republic could not hold together perhaps for a twelvemonth; and once severed, they know full well what would be the magnitude of their disaster. Mutual sacrifices and concessions are, in truth, the ties that bind them together. Let their common glory, and their common destiny, lead the knowledge of what they have achieved, united, and what they would become if severed, once fail to produce a patriotic or a national virtue, powerful enough to cause them to yield sectional interest for the common good, and to forego great party principles and objects for the preservation of their institutions and the integrity of their Government, and glory would soon take leave of their Israel."

See how well the real ground of our strength is known abroad, and how those who are most jealous of us regard the importance of our union and stability! The London Times, too, commenting upon the same subject, says:

"The United States alone have retained the sacred deposit of their national peace inviolate, under the sanction of a common respect for a supreme authority. This is their chief strength and their chief glory. From the aggression or hostility of European Powers they have nothing to fear, but if ever the evil time should come when local interests or passions prevail over the public law, and a disruption of the Union should ensue, it is not too much to predict that the whole face of the North American continent would be changed, the habits and necessities of war would predominate over those of peace, the institutions which now suit the people would become impossible or insufficient, and the New World would in time exhibit but a melancholy parody of the follies and errors which have so long afflicted the older habitations of mankind."

## BRITISH AND AMERICAN MARINE SERVICE.—

In the British House of Commons lately Mr. LABOUCHERE introduced a bill for the regulation of the merchant service. He accompanied it by a speech containing a general outline of the measure, and a statement of the circumstances, which, according to the opinion of the Cabinet, have rendered such interference necessary. He contended that the merchant service of Great Britain suffers greatly from the incompetence and misconduct of ship captains, and, with a view to remove or diminish this evil, he proposes to establish a system of examination by which no man shall in future be permitted to take upon himself the duty of commanding a merchant vessel, without a regular examination, showing that he is properly qualified to undertake such a task. In reply to those who referred him to the excellent condition of the United States mercantile service, where no public examination of masters or mates is required, Mr. Labouchere dwelt upon the difference between England and America in regard to education, for the purpose of showing that the superior intelligence of the great mass of the people in the United States prevents any necessity for such an examination:

"He heartily wished that the education of the people in Great Britain was any thing like the average education in the United States. He saw, the other day, a statement with respect to the plan of education in Massachusetts, where the schools supported by the public were so good that the British citizens of the State were disposed to send their children to those schools rather than to private schools; and this had the effect of raising up a class of men, whether as shipowners or belonging to other professions, of great intelligence. They were not therefore to suppose, because the United States could go on without this examination, that they could do so."

The London Morning Chronicle, in commenting upon Mr. Labouchere's bill, has the following among other remarks:

"In knowledge of the science of navigation, in acquaintance with foreign languages, in the general acquirements necessary for the conduct of business, and in the elevation of mind and deportment which arises from mental cultivation, a large proportion of English masters are, we fear, inferior to men of the same class in Northern Europe and America."

"When, in Massachusetts, with a population of but 800,000 souls, 200,000 guineas of public money are spent annually upon instruction, in addition to a quarter of that sum expended by individuals, it is not surprising that Boston merchant captains, as well as other classes there, should possess superior qualifications."

The Staunton Woolen Factory has just gone into operation at Staunton, (Va.) and is said to prove a profitable investment to the proprietors, and to give a fresh impetus to the business of that community. Two hundred and sixty spindles and six looms are in operation, capable of making one hundred and fifty yards of cloth per day, and as many more are to be added as the demand may require.

HANDSOME BEQUEST.—MR. BENJAMIN H. FURNACE, of Andover, Mass., who died recently, has left by will the sum of \$400,000, to be appropriated to the establishment and endowment of a High School for boys and girls, in Andover South Field.

## CLAY FESTIVAL AT NEW YORK.

The seventy-third anniversary of the birth of HENRY CLAY was celebrated at New York by a grand festival at Niblo's Saloon, in which a large number of Mr. Clay's personal and political friends participated. NICHOLAS DEAN, Esq., presided. The following were the regular toasts on the occasion:

1. The Twelfth of April, 1777, and the Twelfth of April, 1850: The great events of the life included between those two days are an abundant justification of this commemoration, and of the unchanged and unchangeable devotion with which we now renew our pledges of friendship, and repeat the words of "Honor and long life to HENRY CLAY."

2. The President and Vice President of the United States.

3. Our Festival: Recurring with each year's renewal of verdure and bloom, long may it be to us the springtime of Hope! While we live it shall be sacred to the commemoration of heroic faith and patriotic devotion.

4. The Memory of Washington: Still alone in his greatness, and gathering accumulated glory with each succeeding age.

5. The Constitution of the United States: With age, acquiring vigor—with every attack strengthening. During its existence half of the monarchies of Europe have been shattered. Having already survived the ravages of its enemies, it will outlive the very memory of all prophecies of its ruin.

6. Our Distinguished Guests: Honored by their presence, we extend to them the right hand of Clay fellowship, and give them, one and all, a New York welcome.

7. California, Utah, and New Mexico: Ours by a common acquisition: one realizing more than the fabled wealth of Ophir—each entitled to our protection: the same beneficent hand which extends to the stronger a constitution, as a State, cannot refuse to provide for the weaker, governments as Territories.

8. The true men of the Nation: Firm as the everlasting hills; while others in storm and darkness have wavered and proved faithless, they have stood by their principles and the man of their choice—"Faithful among the faithless."

9. Henry Clay in 1850: Where he was forty-three years ago, in the Senate of the United States—as bold and energetic, as capable of any service to his country as he was then—as eloquent and vigilant in the cause of the constitution and of the Union as he ever was. His efforts during the recent crisis are above the meed of praise from us. The nation now takes him from the embrace of party, and will ever guard his fame as the glory of the whole country.

10. The Memory of John C. Calhoun: Over the grave of CALHOUN the North pays the debt it incurred when the South rendered its generous and heroic tributes to the national services and personal worth of the lamented John Quincy Adams. While the whole nation can thus unite in a common grief at the loss of the great men of either section, the HEART of the Union is still unbroken and sound.

11. Daniel Webster: We rejoice that this Statesman has placed himself, in this hour of peril, by the side of the Sage of Ashland, in behalf of the Constitution and of the Union. 12. American talent, industry, and enterprise: Whether displayed in the arts of the sea, navigating the ocean, advancing science, improving the arts, or in establishing republican institutions.

13. The mothers and daughters of America.

Amongst the invited guests present who addressed the company were the Hon. JAMES COOPER, United States Senator from Pennsylvania, Hon. JAMES BROOKS, Representative from New York, and Hon. ROBERT B. CRANSTON, of Rhode Island.

The following were among the letters addressed to the company by distinguished gentlemen whose attendance was invited:

Letter from Hon. Henry Clay.

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1850. I have received your friendly letter, communicating your purpose to celebrate my birthday, occurring the 12th instant, by a public dinner at Niblo's, in the city of New York, and in giving my attendance.

It is impossible to express the depth of my obligation or the extent of my gratitude for this renewed manifestation of confidence and attachment which are so kindly borne towards me; and I appreciate it the more because I understand it to be your intention "to seize the occasion to express your devotion to the Union and Constitution of these States." That sentiment should be the strongest and uppermost in every American bosom, as I am delighted to believe is the fact in regard to the citizens of all parties in the city of New York.

Duties, gentlemen, which I have to perform in respect to the Union in the Senate of the United States, will not allow me to absent myself from my seat at this time, and I cannot, therefore, accept your obliging invitation; but I beg leave to tender to yourselves and your associates my respectful and cordial acknowledgments for the signal honor intended to be rendered to me.

Your friend and obedient servant, H